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BEFORE THE ARIZONA

CORPORATION COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF UNS GAS, INC. FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF JUST AND REASONABLE RATES AND CHARGES DESIGNED TO REALIZE A REASONABLE RATE OF RETURN ON THE FAIR VALUE OF THE PROPERTIES OF UNS GAS, INC. DEVOTED TO ITS OPERATIONS THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF ARIZONA.

Docket No. G-04204A-08-0571

INTERVENOR IBEW LOCAL 1116'S REPLY BRIEF RE: PAYROLL EXPENSE AND PAYROLL TAX EXPENSE ADJUSTMENTS

Pursuant to the Administrative Law Judge's ("ALJ") instructions during the recent hearing in this matter, Local Union 1116, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, AFL-CIO, CLC ("IBEW Local 1116"), by and through undersigned counsel, hereby submits the following response to the portion of the Residential Utility Consumer Office's ("RUCO") Closing Brief dated September 18, 2009 (p. 23) relating to UNS Gas, Inc.'s ("UNS Gas") requested Payroll and Payroll Tax Expense Adjustment.

As set forth in the pre-filed and live testimony of Frank Grijalva, the union's principal officer, IBEW Local 1116 strongly supports and endorses UNS Gas' proposed

Payroll and Payroll Tax Expense Adjustment.¹ See Tr. 245:9-11 (referring to, inter alia, IBEW-1, pp. 4-5). By contrast, in its Closing Brief (p. 23, lines 9-11), RUCO states, inter alia, that it "opposes the Company's request as it is not known and measurable[.]" RUCO's assertion, however, is factually incorrect. See, e.g., Tr. 247:9 to 248:3.

It is undisputed that UNS Gas and IBEW Local 1116 concluded their contract negotiations earlier this year (id.) and, as such, it is relatively easy for the parties and, in turn, this Commission to calculate the amount of the Payroll Expense and Payroll Tax Expense adjustments. IBEW Local 1116 believes that it is both sound public policy and in the public interest for the Commission to adopt this adjustment just like it has in other recent cases.

It is well settled that a public utility, like UNS Gas, needs to maintain financial integrity, attract necessary capital, and compensate investors fairly for the risks they have assumed, and yet provide appropriate protection to the relevant public interests, both existing and foreseeable.

Jersey Cent. Power & Light Co. v. Federal Energy Regulatory Com., 810 F.2d 1168, 1177 (D.C. Cir. 1987) (en banc) (Bork, J.). Thus, the return on the utility rate set by the Commission ought to be sufficient to ensure confidence in

UNS Gas accurately explained the details of this adjustment on page 17 of its Initial Post-Hearing Brief dated September 18, 2009.

the financial integrity of the enterprise, so as to maintain its credit and to attract capital, and that it is important 2 that there be enough revenue to cover its known operating 3 expenses, like the payroll adjustments requested herein. 4 Id. at 1178. 5 WHEREFORE, it is respectfully requested that the 6 Commission approve UNS Gas' proposed Payroll and Payroll Tax 7 Expense adjustment. 8 RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 29th day of September 2009. 9 LUBINA& ENCH, P.C. 10 11 12 J. Enoch, Esq. Attorney for Intervenor IBEW Local 1116 13 14 Original and thirteen (13) copies of IBEW Local 1116's Brief filed 15 this 29th day of September, 2009, with: 16 Arizona Corporation Commission 17 Docket Control Center 1200 West Washington Street 18 Phoenix, Arizona 85007-2996 19 Copies of the foregoing transmitted electronically 20 this same date to: 21 Dwight D. Nodes, Assistant Chief ALJ 22 Hearing Division Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington Street 23 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 24 Phillip J. Dion III, Esq. UniSource Energy Corporation One South Church Avenue, Ste. 200 25 Tucson, Arizona 85701 26

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